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Plague in Chile.

A telegram, dated May 28, 1903, from Santiago de Chile states that the Chilean Government has officially declared the existence of bubonic plague at Iquique. Of 8 cases reported, 5 have died.

Suspected plague in Austria.

A report from Vienna, dated May 28, 1903, states that at Trieste the discharge of cargo, principally rice and cotton, from the British steamer *Baron Fairlie*, from the Orient, was suspended and the vessel and crew were sent to quarantine owing to the illness (suspected bubonic plague) of an Indian stoker.

JAPAN.

Report from Yokohama—Plague in Yokohama and on German steamship Aragonia.

Assistant Surgeon Moore reports, June 3, as follows:

During the week ended May 30, 1903, four steamships, having an aggregate personnel of 321 crew and 159 passengers, were inspected.

The official report of contagious diseases in Yokohama for the above period notes three cases of plague, all terminating fatally. Two of these cases were reported to the Bureau under date of May 27. The third, a Chinese, a member of the crew of the German steamship *Aragonia*, was admitted to a Yokohama hospital as a case of diphtheria, but was later found to be suffering from plague.

The *Aragonia* was placed in quarantine. There have occurred in Yokohama during the present outbreak of the disease, i. e., since May 12, in all 5 cases of plague, with 5 deaths. The last case mentioned was clearly an importation. Grave features of the situation are that the cases have occurred in widely separated sections of the city and that a number of rats dead of plague have been found. However, the authorities are taking very thorough measures to control the infection.

Measures against plague adopted at Yokohama.

Consul-General Bellows reports, May 26, as follows: Several cases of plague occurred at this port last fall, but the municipal authorities took most stringent measures for eradicating it and supposed it was entirely wiped out. These measures consisted of building a close, high zinc-plate fence about a considerable area, including the houses which had contained infected persons. All the residents within this area were removed to an island in the bay and maintained at Government expense until all danger of future infection was believed to be past. The houses within the inclosed area were purchased by the Government and burned, the object of the zinc-plate fence being to prevent the escape of rats, which are thought to be the usual means of spreading the disease.

Similar measures are now being carried out. Three blocks of houses, including 64 buildings in different places in the city, have already been isolated, and 15 rows of dwelling houses and 5 rows of warehouses in another quarter will be strictly disinfected, and the thatched roofs will be removed and burnt. The police are making a thorough inspection

of dwelling houses in all parts of the city, and require the removal of rubbish and cleaning of the premises wherever dirt is found.

The destruction of rats is encouraged, and the dead bodies of rats are examined to determine whether plague germs are present. The newspapers report that the plague bacilli seem to be widely disseminated throughout the city. Four deaths from this disease have been reported.

MALTA.

Quarantine regulations.

The following is received from Consul Grout under date of May 8, 1903:

Government notice.

His excellency the governor, acting on the advice of the council of health, has been pleased to repeal government notice No. 96 of the 7th of May, 1903, and to direct that the following regulations be observed as regards vessels and passengers, viz:

INFECTED PLACES.

1. The following countries and ports are declared to be infected:
(a) Arabia (excepting Perim and Aden); (b) China; (c) India; (d) all ports in the Persian Gulf.

INFECTED VESSELS.

3. Infected vessels are vessels which have or have had on board during the voyage or the preceding twenty days cases of cholera, yellow fever, plague, or any disease with symptoms which, in the opinion of the chief government medical officer, resemble the symptoms of the said diseases.

VESSELS WHICH ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE HARBOR BUT ARE ALLOWED TO COMMUNICATE WITH QUARANTINE ESTABLISHMENTS.

4. Infected vessels.
5. Vessels with pilgrims from the East which do not carry a recognized medical officer.
6. Vessels from infected places which do not carry a recognized medical officer.

VESSELS ALLOWED TO LOAD IN QUARANTINE.

7. Vessels arriving at Malta without a clean bill of health.
8. Infected vessels carrying a recognized medical officer and not having on board an actual case of any of the diseases mentioned in clause 3.
9. Vessels from infected places not having on board an actual case of any of the diseases mentioned in clause 3, when arriving within ten days from date of departure.
10. Vessels with pilgrims from the East which carry a recognized medical officer.
11. Pilots will be allowed to board the vessels referred to in clauses 7, 8, 9, and 10 for the purpose of taking them into the quarantine harbor, subject to the following conditions:

(a) The pilot shall go direct from his boat to the bridge without holding communication with any person except the officers and crew of the vessel, and after the vessel is moored shall be taken in one of her boats to the lazaretto, where his clothes and person shall be disinfected.

(b) To prevent communication or contact with passengers, the master of the vessel shall cause the portion of the deck over which the pilot has to pass to be roped off, and shall exclude from such space and from the bridge all persons except the officers and crew of the vessel so long as the pilot is on board.

VESSELS FROM INFECTED PLACES ADMITTED TO PRATIQUE.

12. Vessels without a clean bill of health or from infected places will be admitted to pratique after ten days from date of departure.